

COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING

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DATE: April 25, 2003

TO: All Individuals and Groups Interested in the Activities of the Commission on Teacher Credentialing

FROM: Dr. Sam W. Swofford
Executive Director

SUBJECT: Update on Development and Implementation of the Teaching Performance Assessment (TPA)

In September 2002 the California Commission on Teacher Credentialing (Commission) adopted Assessment Quality Standards to guide the development and implementation of teaching performance assessments (TPA) pursuant to SB 2042 (Alpert/Mazzoni, 1998). In November 2002 the Commission adopted an implementation plan for these standards. Coded Correspondence 03-0005 entitled, "Implementation of the Teaching Performance Assessment (TPA), pursuant to SB 2042" was published on February 27, 2003. This information is available at <http://www.ctc.ca.gov/codcor.doc/codedcor.html>.

Recently, the Commission received a letter from Secretary for Education Kerry Mazzoni and Senator Dede Alpert requesting that the implementation of the standards be postponed and timelines revised due to budget cuts in every aspect of education. Based on this request and the reality of the challenges presented by the State's current budget situation, staff presented an agenda item, "Update on Development and Implementation of California's Teaching Performance Assessment" to the Commission on April 3, 2003. The agenda item is available at http://www.ctc.ca.gov/aboutctc/agendas/april_2003/april_2003_agenda.html.

This correspondence provides **the most recent** information regarding implementation of the TPA within Professional Teacher Preparation Programs, **superseding Coded Correspondence 03-0005**.

Teacher Preparation Program Responses to the Assessment Quality Standards

At its April 3, 2003 meeting, the Commission took action to delay the implementation of the Assessment Quality Standards of the Standards of Quality and Effectiveness for Professional Teacher Preparation Programs that were adopted by the Commission in September 2001, until the State's budget improves. In place of these Assessment Quality Standards all institutions offering teacher preparation programs will be required to respond to the standard on assessment (Revised Program Standard 19) that will remain in effect until the Assessment Quality Standards are reinstated.

Revised Program Standard 19: Assessment of Candidate Performance

Prior to recommending each candidate for a teaching credential, one or more persons responsible for the program determine on the basis of thoroughly documented evidence that each candidate has demonstrated a satisfactory performance on the full range of the Teaching Performance Expectations (TPEs) as they apply to the subjects to be authorized by the credential. During the program, candidates are guided and coached on their performance in relation to the TPEs using formative assessment processes. Verification of candidate performance is provided by at least one supervising teacher and one institutional supervisor trained to assess the TPEs.

Program Elements for Standard 19: Assessment of Candidate Performance

19(a) By design, candidates will be assessed through the use of both formative and summative assessments embedded throughout the program. Candidates will be informed of the expectations for their performance, guided and coached in the completion of formative assessment tasks that prepare them for summative assessment, and provided timely feedback on their performance in relation to the TPEs.

19(b) There is a systematic summative assessment administered by qualified individuals who are knowledgeable about the TPEs as they apply to the subjects of the credential. At least one supervising teacher and one institutional supervisor summatively assess candidate performance in relation to the TPEs using documented procedures or instruments that are clear, fair, and effective.

19(c) One or more persons who are responsible for the program decide to recommend candidates for credentials on the basis of all available information of each candidate's competence and performance.

Teacher Preparation programs that are submitting responses to SB 2042 standards in the August 1, 2003 and September 1, 2003 submission windows will respond to Revised Program Standard 19.

April 25, 2003

Page 3

Teaching Performance Assessment Implementation Schedule

At its April 3, 2003 meeting, the Commission took action to delay the implementation schedule of the TPA. At this time, institutions are not required to submit implementation plans on June 1, 2003. However, teacher preparation programs that are planning to implement the California TPA (CA TPA) or their own TPA assessment system during the next academic year on a **voluntary** basis are encouraged to do so.

Teaching Performance Assessment Technical Assistance

All technical assistance workshops scheduled for March and April 2003 were postponed. The Commission anticipates offering technical assistance in the 2003-2004 fiscal year and will provide a schedule of workshops later this summer. The Commission supports the ongoing development of TPA systems and will continue to provide technical assistance to institutions that would like to implement the TPA model during the next academic year.

California Teaching Performance Assessment (CA TPA) model

The Commission will continue its work on the CA TPA, an assessment system that has been under development for the last several years. The CA TPA will be completed during the summer of 2003 and available to sponsors of teacher preparation programs for **voluntary** use. These **voluntary** activities are currently scheduled:

CA TPA Benchmark Study, Educational Testing Service, Inc., Concord Office
April 28-May 2 (by invitation only, costs covered by CCTC)

CA TPA Lead Assessor Training/Scoring/Standard Setting, Educational Testing Service, Inc., Concord Office
June 9-14 (by invitation only)

Summary

The Commission has delayed the implementation of the Assessment Quality Standards and the implementation schedule of the TPA until the State's budget improves. Institutions are to respond to the standard on assessment (Revised Program Standard 19) of the Standards of Quality and Effectiveness for Professional Teacher Preparation Programs. At this time, institutions are not required to submit implementation plans for the TPA on June 1, 2003.